

San Diego City Attorney MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE

NEWS RELEASE

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Aguirre Responds to Attorney General's Report

Allegations made in connection to Sunroad FACT SHEET

- The City Attorney NEVER offered to trade never offered to trade increased funding for the City Attorney's Office for an agreement to relent in his demand that Sunroad Centrum building in Kearny Mesa be reduced to height deemed safe by federal aviation officials.
- The City Attorney declined to participate in the Attorney General's review because he believed the local office of the Attorney General had demonstrated its bias in this matter when it failed despite an explicit request to aide in reducing the hazardous building to a safe height and when the Attorney General helped to block a legal search warrant in the case.
- The Attorney General's report includes serious errors in its time line errors that invalidate its conclusions. For example, the City Attorney had issued a report (May 15, 2007) severely critical of the Mayor's role in the Sunroad matter before the allegations of political threats were alleged to have occurred.
- In a June 14, 2007 radio broadcast, the Mayor denied there was any link between funding for the City Attorney's office and the City Attorney's position on Sunroad. Questioned by radio host Roger Hedgecock regarding whether the City Attorney made allegations about Sunroad because of the budget dispute, the Mayor responded: "I think Mike cares very deeply about Sunroad and I'm not going to try to take that away from him."
- The Attorney General's report glosses over the fact that the Mayor denied that an executive of the San Diego Airport Authority was retained by his office to develop a plan to allow the hazardous building to stand only to acknowledge that his denial was "misleading" after evidence to the contrary was made public.
- The Mayor's report on Sunroad that was issued on July 19, 2007, made no mention of any allegations of an offer to trade increased funding for the City Attorney's office for a softening of the City Attorney's position that Sunroad had to be reduced to a height deemed safe by federal aviation regulators.

Note: City Attorney Letter and Statement, visit www.sandiegocityattorney.org, click "Montgomery Field."